

# **Determination of Public Land (Rangeland) Health for 64015 JOHNSON PLACE**

The Record of Decision (ROD) for the New Mexico Standards for Public Land Health and guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management (dated January 2001) adopted three Standards for Public Land Health. These are (1) Upland Sites Standard, (2) Biotic Communities, including Native, Threatened, Endangered and Special Status Species and (3) Riparian Sites Standard.

The ROD also established a process for the BLM Field Offices for implementation. Through a public participation process, the Roswell Field Office developed and adopted indicators to use in conjunction with existing monitoring data to assess these standards.

Field Assessment worksheets and other available data that evaluate the local indicators were completed for this allotment. Based on my review of the Assessment Team's recommendation and other relevant data and information, I have determined that the sites within 64015 JOHNSON PLACE meet the Standards of Rangeland Health.

/s/ Jerry Dutchover.  
Assistant Field Manager

08/02/2012  
Date

# Standards of Public Land Health

## Evaluation of 64015 JOHNSON PLACE Allotment

### [ 12/13/2011 ]

The Roswell Field Office conducted rangeland health assessments at 3 study sites within 64015 JOHNSON PLACE. The assessments looked at the Soil/Site Stability, Hydrologic Function and Biotic Integrity indicators within the vicinity of each study site. Existing monitoring data was incorporated into and in support of the field assessment. The summary of each assessment is attached and shown in the following table.

Study Area or Assessment Area	UPLAND			BIOTIC			RIPARIAN		
	Meets	Monitor an Indicator	Does Not Meet	Meets	Monitor an Indicator	Does Not Meet	Meets	Monitor an Indicator	Does Not Meet
64015-HEIFER-E140	X			X			N/A		
64015-MIDDLE-E141	X			X			N/A		
64015-WEST-E139	X			X			N/A		

Twenty-two (22) indicators for Rangeland Health were evaluated for public land on Johnson Place, allotment #64015. Ten of these assessed soil site stability, 11 hydrologic functions and 13 for biotic integrity. These qualitative assessments in conjunction with quantitative information gathered from previous data collected on 1 trend plot location within this allotment were utilized to make rangeland health determinations. Quantitative evaluations are performed by the Roswell Field Office, which include some or all of the following: ground and vegetative cover and composition, production, frequency and ecological condition. These collections were initiated in the late 1970's/early 1980's, are scheduled and conducted approximately every 5 to 10 years.

This allotment contains 4,469 acres of public land. The studies are located on Loamy CP-3 ecological sites. At each of the study locations all of the 22 indicators were rated as either 'None to Slight' or 'Slight to Moderate' degree of departure from the Ecological Site description and/or Ecological Reference Area.

**Recommendations:** As the indicators fall in the 'None to Slight' or 'Slight to Moderate' category, this allotment is rated as "Meeting" the standard for Rangeland Health. Continue the rangeland monitoring studies to insure proper stocking rates are maintained and that the perennial grasscover and good plant composition remains.

RFOs Upland and Biotic Standard Assessment Summary Worksheet						
SITE 64015-HEIFER-E140						
Legal Land Desc	NWNE 9 0060S 0210E Meridian 23	Acreage		674		
Ecosite	070CY109NM LOAMY CP-3	Photo Taken		Y		
Watershed	13060005020 ARROYO DEL MACHO					
Observers	ORTEGA & PETERSON	Observation Date		12/13/2011		
County Soil Survey	NM644 CHAVES NORTH	Soil Var/Taxad				
Soil Map Unit	TAB	Soil Taxon Name		THREADGILL		
Texture Class	NM644 SIL	Soil Phase		THREADGILL- ASPARAS		
Texture Modifier	NM644 SILT LOAM					
Observed Avg Annual Precipitation		Observed Avg Growing Season Precipitation				
NOAA Annual Precipitation	6.32	NOAA Growing Season Precipitation		5.42		
NOAA Avg Annual Precipitation	8.7	NOAA Avg Growing Season Precipitation		7.38		
Disturbances and Animal Use:						
<b>Part 2. Attributes and Indicators</b>						
		Departure from Ecological Site Description/Ecological Reference Areas				
Attribute	Indicators	Extreme	Moderate to Extreme	Moderate	Slight to Moderate	None to Slight
S H	Rills					X
Comments:						
S H	Water Flow Patterns					X
Comments:						
S H	Pedestals and/or Terracettes					X
Comments:						
S H	Bare Ground					X

Comments:						
S H	Gullies					X
Comments:						
S	Wind-scoured, Blowouts, and/or Deposition Areas					X
Comments:						
H	Litter Movement					X
Comments:						
S H B	Soil Surface Resistance to Erosion					X
Comments:						
S H B	Soil Surface Loss or Degradation					X
Comments:						
H	Plant Community Composition and Distribution Relative to Infiltration and Runoff					X
Comments:						
S H B	Compaction Layer					X
Comments:						
B	Functional/Structural Groups					X
Comments:						
B	Plant Mortality/Decadence					X
Comments:						
H B	Litter Amount					X
Comments:						
B	Annual Production				X	
Comments:	Low production levels due to drought					
B	Invasive Plants					X
Comments:						
B	Reproductive Capability of Perennial Plants					X
Comments:						
S	Physical/Chemical/Biological Crusts					X
Comments:						
B	Wildlife Habitat					X

Comments:						
B	Wildlife Populations					X
Comments:						
B	Special Status Species Habitat					
Comments:	NA					
B	Special Status Species Populations					
Comments:	NA					

### Part 3. Summary

A. Indicator Summary - Each of the indicators are associated with one or more of the attributes below. An indicator is placed in a category (columns) above and summed for each of the Standard Attributes.

Standard Attribute		Extreme	Moderate to Extreme	Moderate	Slight to Moderate	None to Slight
S	Soil	0	0	0	0	10
H	Hydrologic	0	0	0	0	11
B	Biotic	0	0	0	1	10

B. Attribute Summary. In this table, the Extreme and Extreme to Moderate columns in the table above are merged for the *Does not Meet* column, Moderate becomes *May Need More Info*, and Slight to Moderate and None to Slight merge to form the *Meets* columns. Values from the table are summarized below. Space is provided for rationale of the determination. This space should most certainly be used when the determination by the ID team conflicts with the summarized values. Provide the sources of information that lead to the determination. X out the appropriate box for each attribute to denote final agreed upon determination by the ID team.

Attribute	Rationale	Does Not Meet	May Need More Info	Meets
Soil		0	0	10
Hydrologic		0	0	11
Biotic		0	0	11

Site Notes: Moderate level of utilization by livestock. All expected grass species are present. Low production due to lack of precipitation during the growing season. Overall condition of the pasture is good.

## RFOs Upland and Biotic Standard Assessment Summary Worksheet

### SITE 64015-MIDDLE-E141

Legal Land Desc	NENW 17 0060S 0210E Meridian 23	Acreage	1675
Ecosite	070CY109NM LOAMY CP-3	Photo Taken	Y
Watershed	13060005040 FIFTEEN MILE		
Observers	ORTEGA & PETERSON	Observation Date	12/13/2011
County Soil Survey	NM644 CHAVES NORTH	Soil Var/Taxad	
Soil Map Unit	PDB	Soil Taxon Name	PASTURA
Texture Class	NM644 L	Soil Phase	PASTURA- DARVEY
Texture Modifier	NM644 LOAM		
Observed Avg Annual Precipitation		Observed Avg Growing Season Precipitation	
NOAA Annual Precipitation	6.32	NOAA Growing Season Precipitation	5.42
NOAA Avg Annual Precipitation	8.7	NOAA Avg Growing Season Precipitation	7.38
Disturbances and Animal Use:			

### Part 2. Attributes and Indicators

		Departure from Ecological Site Description/Ecological Reference Areas				
Attribute	Indicators	Extreme	Moderate to Extreme	Moderate	Slight to Moderate	None to Slight
S H	Rills					X
Comments:						
S H	Water Flow Patterns					X
Comments:						
S H	Pedestals and/or Terracettes					X
Comments:						
S H	Bare Ground					X

Comments:						
S H	Gullies					X
Comments:						
S	Wind-scoured, Blowouts, and/or Deposition Areas					X
Comments:						
H	Litter Movement					X
Comments:						
S H B	Soil Surface Resistance to Erosion					X
Comments:						
S H B	Soil Surface Loss or Degradation					X
Comments:						
H	Plant Community Composition and Distribution Relative to Infiltration and Runoff					X
Comments:						
S H B	Compaction Layer					X
Comments:						
B	Functional/Structural Groups					X
Comments:						
B	Plant Mortality/Decadence					X
Comments:						
H B	Litter Amount					X
Comments:						
B	Annual Production				X	
Comments:	Low production due to low precipitation during growing season.					
B	Invasive Plants					X
Comments:						
B	Reproductive Capability of Perennial Plants					X
Comments:						
S	Physical/Chemical/Biological Crusts					X
Comments:						
B	Wildlife Habitat					X

Comments:						
B	Wildlife Populations					X
Comments:						
B	Special Status Species Habitat					
Comments:	NA					
B	Special Status Species Populations					
Comments:	NA					

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Standard Attribute		Extreme	Moderate to Extreme	Moderate	Slight to Moderate	None to Slight
S	Soil	0	0	0	0	10
H	Hydrologic	0	0	0	0	11
B	Biotic	0	0	0	1	10

B. Attribute Summary. In this table, the Extreme and Extreme to Moderate columns in the table above are merged for the *Does not Meet* column, Moderate becomes *May Need More Info*, and Slight to Moderate and None to Slight merge to form the *Meets* columns. Values from the table are summarized below. Space is provided for rationale of the determination. This space should most certainly be used when the determination by the ID team conflicts with the summarized values. Provide the sources of information that lead to the determination. X out the appropriate box for each attribute to denote final agreed upon determination by the ID team.

Attribute	Rationale	Does Not Meet	May Need More Info	Meets
Soil		0	0	10
Hydrologic		0	0	11
Biotic		0	0	11

Site Notes: Overall good condition in this pasture. Slight to Moderate use by livestock. All expected grass species are present. Low production due to low amount of precipitation during the growing season.

RFOs Upland and Biotic Standard Assessment Summary Worksheet						
SITE 64015-WEST-E139						
Legal Land Desc	NENE 30 0060S 0210E Meridian 23	Acreage		2120		
Ecosite	070CY109NM LOAMY CP-3	Photo Taken		Y		
Watershed	13060005040 FIFTEEN MILE					
Observers	ORTEGA & PETERSON	Observation Date		12/13/2011		
County Soil Survey	NM644 CHAVES NORTH	Soil Var/Taxad				
Soil Map Unit	PDB	Soil Taxon Name		PASTURA		
Texture Class	NM644 L	Soil Phase		PASTURA- DARVEY		
Texture Modifier	NM644 LOAM					
Observed Avg Annual Precipitation		Observed Avg Growing Season Precipitation				
NOAA Annual Precipitation	6.32	NOAA Growing Season Precipitation		5.42		
NOAA Avg Annual Precipitation	8.7	NOAA Avg Growing Season Precipitation		7.38		
Disturbances and Animal Use:						
<b>Part 2. Attributes and Indicators</b>						
		Departure from Ecological Site Description/Ecological Reference Areas				
Attribute	Indicators	Extreme	Moderate to Extreme	Moderate	Slight to Moderate	None to Slight
S H	Rills					X
Comments:						
S H	Water Flow Patterns					X
Comments:						
S H	Pedestals and/or Terracettes					X
Comments:						
S H	Bare Ground					X

Comments:						
S H	Gullies					X
Comments:						
S	Wind-scoured, Blowouts, and/or Deposition Areas					X
Comments:						
H	Litter Movement					X
Comments:						
S H B	Soil Surface Resistance to Erosion					X
Comments:						
S H B	Soil Surface Loss or Degradation					X
Comments:						
H	Plant Community Composition and Distribution Relative to Infiltration and Runoff					X
Comments:						
S H B	Compaction Layer					X
Comments:						
B	Functional/Structural Groups					X
Comments:						
B	Plant Mortality/Decadence					X
Comments:						
H B	Litter Amount					X
Comments:						
B	Annual Production				X	
Comments:						
B	Invasive Plants					X
Comments:						
B	Reproductive Capability of Perennial Plants					X
Comments:						
S	Physical/Chemical/Biological Crusts					X
Comments:						
B	Wildlife Habitat					X

Comments:						
B	Wildlife Populations					X
Comments:						
B	Special Status Species Habitat					
Comments:	NA					
B	Special Status Species Populations					
Comments:	NA					

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S	Soil	0	0	0	0	10
H	Hydrologic	0	0	0	0	11
B	Biotic	0	0	0	1	10

B. Attribute Summary. In this table, the Extreme and Extreme to Moderate columns in the table above are merged for the *Does not Meet* column, Moderate becomes *May Need More Info*, and Slight to Moderate and None to Slight merge to form the *Meets* columns. Values from the table are summarized below. Space is provided for rationale of the determination. This space should most certainly be used when the determination by the ID team conflicts with the summarized values. Provide the sources of information that lead to the determination. X out the appropriate box for each attribute to denote final agreed upon determination by the ID team.

Attribute	Rationale	Does Not Meet	May Need More Info	Meets
Soil		0	0	10
Hydrologic		0	0	11
Biotic		0	0	11

Site Notes: Slight to Moderate utilization by livestock. All expected grass species are present. Seedheads are still visible, low production amounts due to low precipitation during growing season. Pasture overall condition is good.